

Message Text

SECRET

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46

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 L-03

EB-11 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 PRS-01 RSR-01

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R 210915 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2818

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

S E C R E T TEHRAN 4400

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, IR

SUBJECT: IRANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S TRIP TO SAUDI ARABIA

REF: A) STATE 093108

B) TEHRAN 3784

C) TEHRAN 3877

D) TEHRAN 4077

E) TEHRAN 4316

1. FOREIGN MINISTER KHALATBARI CONVOKED ME MORNING 21 JUNE FOR DISCUSSION OF HIS JULY 1 TRIP TO SAUDI ARABIA. HE STATED THAT HE WAS REPAYING VISIT OF SAUDI FOREIGN MINISTER SAQQAF AND WOULD USE OCCASION TO CONSULT WITH SAG ON ALL- IMPORTANT QUESTION OF STABILITY IN PERSIAN GULF AREA. KHALATBARI SAID THAT GOI FEELS THE SAME AS USG ABOUT NECESSITY FOR COLLABORATION BETWEEN IRAN AND SAG TO COUNTER SUBVERSIVE MOVEMENTS WHICH APPEAR TO BE GAINING STRENGTH IN THE REGION. GOI IS OF OPINION THAT THIS IS GOOD TIME FOR TALKS WITH SAG SINCE GOI HAS SOLVED ITS OIL PROBLEMS WITH CONSORTIUM AND CAN NOW TURN ITS FULL ATTENTION TO INSURING THAT OIL FLOWS SMOOTHLY THROUGH PERSIAN GULF.

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2. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION AS TO HOW HE INTENDED TO PROCEED IN TALKS WITH SAQQAF, KHALATBARI INDICATED HE WAS PREPARED TO PUT FORWARD VARIOUS PROPOSALS TO ASCERTAIN WHAT WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO SAG. HE INDICATED THAT PROPOSALS MIGHT TAKE ANY OF FOLLOWING FORMS:

(1) ATTEMPT TO PUT TOGETHER A MUTUAL ASSISTANCE TREATY WITH SAUDI ARABIA AND THE OTHER LITTORAL STATES EVEN INCLUDING OMAN. THIS COULD HAVE THE CHARACTER EITHER OF AN OPEN TREATY OR A SECRET ONE IF THE FORMER WOULD BE TOO OPEN TO CRITICISM BY RADICAL ARAB STATES.

(2) ATTEMPT TO HAVE THE ARAB LITTORAL STATES PUT TOGETHER AMONG THEMSELVES A TREATY AGAINST SUBVERSION, THEN HAVE THESE STATES MAKE AN ARRANGEMENT WITH IRAN SO THAT IRAN COULD COME TO THE ASSISTANCE OF ANY STATE WHICH WAS THREATENED.

(3) ATTEMPT TO WRITE A JOINT DECLARATION BY ALL THE STATES IN SUPPORT OF ONE AGREED TEXT. SUCH A DECLARATION WOULD SPEAK TO COOPERATION AMONG THE LITTORAL STATES WHILE RULING OUT THE INVOLVEMENT OF ANY EXTERNAL POWER(SEE TEHRAN 3877). KHALATBARI NOTED THAT THIS APPROACH HAD

BEEN DISCUSSED WITH BRITISH AMBASSADOR RAMSBOTHAM PRIOR TO RECENT CENTO MEETING.

(4) ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN STATEMENT SEPARATELY FROM EACH LITTORAL STATE ORCHESTRATING A CENTRAL THEME. KHALATBARI FELT THAT THE COMMUNIQUE RESULTING FROM RECENT VISIT OF KUWAITI FOREIGN MINISTER TO BAHRAIN MAKE A GOOD START ON THIS KIND OF DECLARATION.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: KHALATBARI WOULD APPRECIATE ASSISTANCE FROM AMBASSADOR THACHER IN PREPARING AND SMOOTHING WAY FOR HIS VISIT WITH SAQQAF. HE IS NOT RPT NOT ASKING ANYTHING FORMAL ON BEHALF OF GOI. HE SIMPLY WOULD LIKE AMB. THACHER TO DO WHATEVER USG FEELS APPROPRIATE AND SUITABLE AT THIS TIME AND IN GENERAL CONTEXT OF INTERESTS

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BOTH COUNTRIES HAVE IN ENLISTING HELP FROM SAG. KHALATBARI IS CONCERNED OVER SLOWNESS OF DECISION- MAKING PROCESS IN SAG AND IS HOPEFUL THAT AMB. THACHER, WITH HIS INTIMATE UNDERSTANDING OF BOTH GOI AND SAG POLICIES, MAY BE ABLE TO HELP SET STAGE FOR USEFUL GOI- SAG CONVERSATIONS.
HELMS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973TEHRAN04400
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730624/aaaajiel.tel
Line Count: 119
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 STATE 093108, 73 TEHRAN 3784, 73 TEHRAN 3877, 73 TEHRAN 4077, 73 TEHRAN 4316
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09-Aug-2001 by kellerpr>; APPROVED <09-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> wfs 980217
Subject: IRANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER' S TRIP TO SAUDI ARABIA
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, IR
To: JIDDA
KUWAIT
LONDON
NEA
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

